

# Church of *Our Lady Star of the Sea*

Administered by the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales • [www.oblates.org](http://www.oblates.org)

The First Sunday of Advent • December 3, 2023

## Current Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:00pm

Sunday: 8:30, 10:30, (Live Stream as well),  
6:00pm

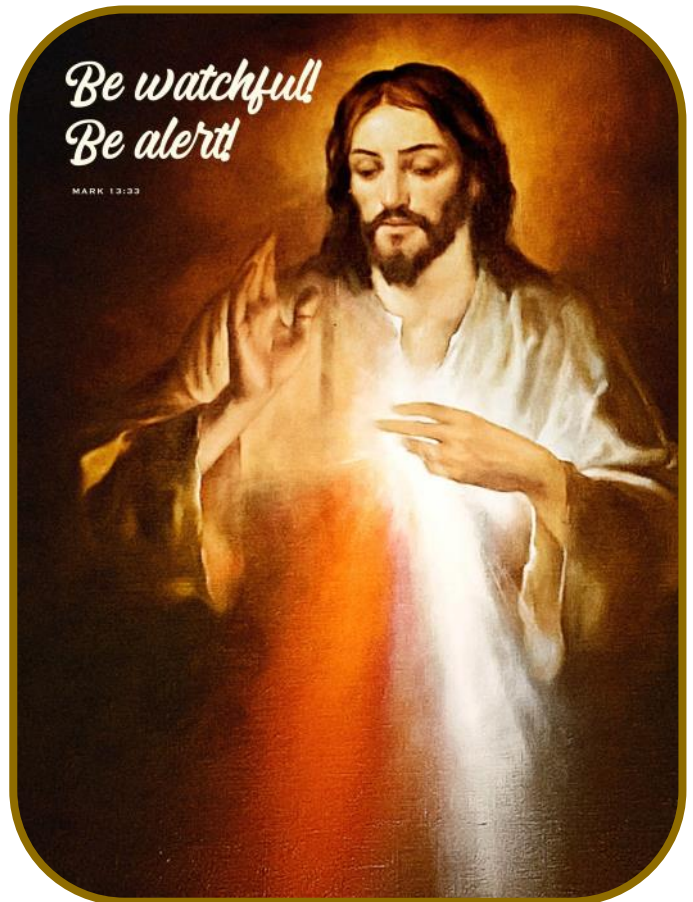
Daily Mass: Monday - Friday @ 11:00am  
(Star of the Sea)

Confessions: Sat. 3:00-3:30pm  
Tues. & Thurs. after 11:00am Mass

Eucharistic Adoration:  
1<sup>st</sup> Friday of Each Month  
9:00am - 11:00am

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of Each Month: Mass @ 9:00am

Church open for Private Prayer:  
Mon.- Fri. 10:00am - 5:00pm



SOUTH JERSEY  
CATHOLIC  
MINISTRIES  
APPEAL

By supporting the *Catholic Ministries Appeal*, you are supporting those who comprise the programs and ministries of the Diocese of Camden. These ministries serve the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the hungry and challenged. When we support the *Catholic Ministries Appeal*, we can bring the light of hope to those in the Catholic community of South Jersey.



Parish Goal: \$129,300.00  
Total as of Nov. 21, 2023:  
\$ 95,546.00  
% of Goal: 74%  
Balance Remaining:  
\$33,754.00

525 Washington Street, Cape May, NJ 08204 • 520 Lafayette Street (Parish Office/Mailing Address)  
Phone: 609-884-5312 • Fax: 609-542-9702 • [www.ladystarofthesea.org](http://www.ladystarofthesea.org)

# LITURGY

## MASS INTENTIONS

### SATURDAY, December 2

9:00a William Scott, Jr.

4:00p John Peel r/b His Mother

### SUNDAY, December 3

8:30a Dec'd Members of the Mahaney & Brand Families r/b The Mahaney Family

10:30a Elena Goddi Battaglia r/b Joe Jose Gonzales r/b Patty & Jim Hall Ints. of the Sprandio Family r/b Sister Nancy Butler

6:00p For the People of the Parish

### MONDAY, December 4

11:00a Jim Cicchitti r/b Tracie Cicchitti

### TUESDAY, December 5

11:00a Nellis Haboush 1<sup>st</sup> Anniv. r/b Larry & Vickie Petfield

### WEDNESDAY, December 6

11:00a Francis & Mary Goggin r/b Maryanne Thomas

### THURSDAY, December 7

11:00a Anna & Charles Hippe r/b Carol Gaynor

6:30p Malcolm B. Merklinger 23<sup>rd</sup> Anniv. & Mary Elizabeth Merklinger r/b Dr. James & Marilou Rochford

### FRIDAY, December 8

9:00a Scott Joseph Smith r/b Patty & Jim Hall

11:00a Brendan McCulligan r/b The Sullivan Family



**"Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come." - Mark 13:33**

We all take things for granted. In particular, we take time for granted. We make our lives too busy. We plan our days, weeks, months, even years in advance. **Remember, our time on earth is a gift.** None of us knows how long we will be here. Start today living **Stewardship** by **thanking God for each and every day.** Take time in silence, every day, and listen to how **God is calling you right now to help build His kingdom on earth.**

## STAFF DIRECTORY

Oblates of St. Francis de Sales • [www.oblates.org](http://www.oblates.org)

Rev. John J. Dolan, OSFS - Pastor

[JDolan@ladystarofthesea.org](mailto:JDolan@ladystarofthesea.org) • Ext. 104

Rev. James T. Dever, OSFS - Priest in Residence

[JDever@ladystarofthesea.org](mailto:JDever@ladystarofthesea.org) • Ext. 103

### Parish Staff

Sr. Maria Metzger, SSJ - Pastoral Associate

[MMetzger@ladystarofthesea.org](mailto:MMetzger@ladystarofthesea.org) • Ext. 109

Mr. Terence McGarvey - Parish Administrator

[tmcgarvey@ladystarofthesea.org](mailto:tmcgarvey@ladystarofthesea.org) • Ext. 120

Mrs. Marie Turco - Parish Secretary • Ext. 101

Art & Jil Ciancaglini ~ Music Director & Leader of Song

Denise Mount ~ Business Assistant

[DMount@ladystarofthesea.org](mailto:DMount@ladystarofthesea.org) • Ext. 106

Car Raffle Chair ~ Martine Simonis • Ext. 110

Regina Alulis ~ Bulletin Contact •

[ralulis@netscape.net](mailto:ralulis@netscape.net)

Parish Office • Mon.-Fri. 9:00am - 12pm,

1:00pm - 4:00pm

609-884-5312 • Fax: 609-542-9702

[parish@ladystarofthesea.org](mailto:parish@ladystarofthesea.org)

### Our Mission...

*Swept by the waves of Christ's love and  
guided by the Holy Spirit,  
we welcome all to the Catholic community of  
Our Lady Star of the Sea  
in the heart of Cape May. We celebrate God's  
Presence in  
Word, Sacrament, and Service.  
We seek to be a faith-filled community  
where you  
experience the loving embrace of God.*

PREPARE YOURSELF FOR THE COMING OF OUR

*Lord Jesus Christ!*

## SALESIAN REFLECTION

### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent (12/3/2023)

Today we begin the new Church year and the season of Advent - a time of devout and joyful expectation.

During these four weeks, we will prepare ourselves to celebrate the remembrance of Jesus' first coming among us - when the Word took on human flesh to reconcile us to our Father. This remembrance will help us direct our minds and hearts as we await Jesus' coming again as King, Judge and Savior.

This morning, the prophet Isaiah helps connect us to the longing of God's people, Israel, who are in exile. Their prayer is a plea for God's mercy, asking him to come again, as he had done in days gone by, and redeem his people with a display of his power and majesty. It's easy for us to join the Israelites as they confess their sins and plead for salvation. Like them, we can acknowledge God as our Father; and, in great humility, open ourselves to be clay in the hands of the divine potter.

In this way, we can become more and more **the "work of his hands."**

Paul encourages us to focus our attention on the favor that God has bestowed on us in Christ Jesus. We have been called to fellowship with Jesus, and he will strengthen us to the end.

The constant call of Advent is heard in today's Gospel. If we are aware of the favor of grace that God has given us in Jesus, then we want to **"be constantly on the watch."** We need to **"stay awake!"** for Jesus is coming again at a time no one knows. And when he comes, we want to be found living faithfully the way that he has taught us and graced us to live.

Our longing for his coming is best shown in our willingness to be fresh clay in the hands of God, asking him to mold us more and more in the image of Jesus during this Advent season. Then we can say with devout and joyful expectation each day:

**"Come, Lord Jesus, come!"  
May God be praised!**

Rev. Michael S. Murray, OSFS,  
Executive Director of the De Sales  
Spirituality Center

### December 8 ~ The Feast of the Immaculate Conception - A Holy Day of Obligation

**Masses: Thurs., Dec. 7:**

6:30PM followed by  
the Lighting of the  
Outdoor Crib

**Fri., Dec. 8:** 9:00 & 11:00AM



### Live Jesus

#### A 3 Day Advent Mini Retreat on the Birth of Jesus – A Gospel Study



To prepare your hearts for Christmas, you are invited to join Msgr. Joe Marino\*\*\* in exploring the beauty and mystery of the birth of Jesus according to the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. The Gospel study will take place over 3 days (1 hour each day).

**Tuesday, Dec. 5:** Explore St. Luke's Infancy Narrative

**Wednesday, Dec. 6:** Video: "The Star of Bethlehem" by Rick Larson followed by Discussion

**Thursday, Dec. 7:** Explore St. Matthew's Infancy Narrative

**Time& Place:** 9:30AM to 10:30AM each day in the Blessed Michael J. McGivney Room (The Knights of Columbus Meeting Room located in the Parish Hall)

\*\*\*Msgr. Joe helps with Sunday Masses at Our Lady Star of the Sea

### A Women's Christmas... An Epiphany Celebration for Wise Women



Women's Christmas is rooted in a delightful Irish tradition. On the Feast of the Epiphany, the celebration of the coming of the Wise Men to the Infant Jesus, Irish women left the care of their households to the men for a few hours so they could enjoy each other's company away from their domestic responsibilities, especially after the busyness of Christmas preparations.

**Theme: Self-Love**

**When:** Saturday, January 6, 2024 9:00AM - 2:00PM

**Mass:** 9:00AM at Our Lady Star of the Sea followed by  
**Create a Sacred Space** in the De Sales Room,  
Parish Hall

Brunch will be served. Good will offering and please let us know of any dietary restrictions when you RSVP.

**RSVP:** Dani by email, flyhome@icloud.com or  
call 609-898-4431 by December 15





## SOUTH JERSEY CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

### 2023 APPEAL: "FOR THE LIFE OF THE WORLD"

In every way, the work of our ministries emanates from the Eucharist. As Saint John Paul II said, "The Eucharist is the heart of the Church. Where Eucharistic life flourishes, there the life of the church will blossom." The Eucharist is the true presence of Jesus Christ, it is the spiritual food that gives us strength to carry out His work each day and everything we do as Catholics emanates from that.

The theme of this year's campaign, "For the Life of the World," reminds us that our spiritual sustenance and community are rooted in the Eucharist, in Christ. Your individual gift to this Appeal will become one of many that unites and builds up the one Body of Christ. Through our various ministries across the diocese your gift is shared and brings comfort, relief, encouragement and support to many.

Simply complete the form below, drop in the collection basket or mail directly to the Parish Office.



### SOUTH JERSEY CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Parish OLSS - CM

#### Parish Use Only

Affix Label Here or:

New Donor is a: ☐ Member ☐ Visitor

**Yes!** I would like to support the South Jersey Catholic Ministries Appeal with a: (Please check all that apply)

- ☐ **One Time** Gift of: \_\_\_\_\_ By: ☐ Check ☐ Credit Card
- ☐ **A Pledge** with Installments (details below)
- ☐ or see other side for my selection

#### Pledge Information if Applicable

Total Pledged Gift: \_\_\_\_\_ # of Monthly Installments: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I have included the first installment by check today:

Check Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Check Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please use a number of installments that **conclude by March of next year**  
Please make checks payable to **"South Jersey Catholic Ministries Appeal"**

#### Credit Card Information for One-Time Gift or Installment Payments:

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ AmEx ☐ Discover

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

CSV Code: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Parish Office, please call me for the above information.

I have already made my gift:

☐ Through my workplace giving program. ☐ Directly to the Pastor

☐ I am not able to make a pledge at this time

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parish Office Mailing Address:**  
**520 Lafayette Street**  
**Cape May, NJ 08204**

**You can also visit our Website,**  
**[www.ladystarofthesea.org](http://www.ladystarofthesea.org),**  
**for a quick link to donate**  
**from the homepage**

**Light Up for Christ  
~ Annual Celebration  
Lighting of The Christmas Crib**

On Thurs., Dec. 7, after the 6:30PM Vigil Mass of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, the Knights of Columbus will have their annual festive lighting of the Christmas crib.



Knights of Columbus St. Mary's Council #6202 promotes the "Keep Christ in Christmas" message with our outdoor Nativity Scene. Councils all over the world honor the birth of Jesus by illuminating and blessing a Nativity scene during the first week of December as part of the order's campaign to keep the meaning of the Birth of Jesus.

## Christmas Schedule

### Confessions

Saturday, December 16  
3:00 - 3:30PM

Tuesday, December 19 &  
Thursday, December 21  
Following the 11:00AM Mass

### Masses

**Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24**  
4:00, 6:00, 9:00PM - Our Lady Star of the Sea  
4:00PM - St. Agnes, Cape May Point

**Christmas Day, Monday, December 25**  
8:30, 10:30AM

**New Year's Eve Masses**  
Sunday, December 31  
6:00PM

**New Year's Day Masses**  
Monday, January 1



### Advent Family Retreat Marianist Family Retreat Center, Cape May Point

Eight to ten families (Grandparents welcome, too!) come together to form a Christ - centered community for the week-end. Mass and other family liturgies are complemented by skits, presentations, family sharing, peer group discussions, and fun activities. All with the focus on preparations related to the liturgical season of Advent, emphasizing the significance of bringing Jesus to others.



**When:** Week 2: Dec. 8 - 10    Week 3: Dec. 15 - 17  
**Contact:** <https://www.capemaymarianists.org/contact>  
609-884-3829

**Schedule:** Friday Dinner (6:30PM) - Sunday Lunch  
(ends at 2:00PM)

**Cost:** \$145/Person (8 yrs. to adult), \$100/Person  
(2-7 yrs.), Free (Under 2) \*\*Maximum\*\* Amount per Family: \$550



## Silent Retreat

Friday, December 15 at 4:00 p.m. to  
Sunday, December 17 at 1:30 p.m.

*What will I do on a retreat? Which is right for me?*

**Private:** Take the time for silence and immerse yourself in prayerful dialogue with God. Spend time in chapel, take walks in a beautiful setting, read scripture, and simply have a conversation with God. Most importantly, take the time to listen for God's voice within you!

**Directed:** All of the above, plus meet daily with a trained spiritual director who can help you plan your prayer time and discern how God is speaking with you! Limited to 10 participants.

**\$200 Private  
\$240 Directed  
Meals included**



Villa Maria by the Sea Retreat Center  
101 111th Street, Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
Register at [www.VMbytheSea.com](http://www.VMbytheSea.com) or call 609-964-7700

# Remember Advent

isn't about  
shopping  
stressing  
planning  
or buying

it's about  
praying  
expecting  
hoping  
and waiting

Advent is expectant waiting, hopeful anticipation, and joyful preparation for God coming into our lives and hearts in all moments at all times. So this Advent, add some meaning to your waiting: volunteer at a hospital or a soup kitchen, spend some extra time in prayer, and share hope with those who need it most.





Survivors & Thrivers is a community of women who have experienced or are experiencing any kind of cancer. We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month.

**Next meeting:** December 21, 2023

**When:** 4:00 - 5:30 PM

**Where:** DeSales Room of the Parish Hall

**Contact:** Dani, [flyhome@icloud.com](mailto:flyhome@icloud.com) or call 609-898-4431

### Prayer and Praise Welcome to our Prayer Group

**When:** 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month  
@ 3:30PM

**Where:** De Sales Room in the  
Parish Hall

**Contact for additional information:**  
Donna - [dwickers.olsos@gmail.com](mailto:dwickers.olsos@gmail.com)



### Family Promise

Family Promise of  
Cape May County  
strives to keep  
Homeless Families  
together during their

time of crisis by providing safe shelter, meals and the support of those services needed to educate, encourage and empower our guest families. Star of the Sea Parish is a buddy congregation with the Cape May United Methodist Church. We share a commitment to provide a meal for the families in the program just four times a year. Please feel free to visit us at the Family Promise Day Center, 505 Townbank Road in North Cape May and learn of volunteer and participation opportunities.



**For more information,  
contact Loretta: [zipwcm@comcast.net](mailto:zipwcm@comcast.net)**

Each week the **Talking Catholic** hosts interview Catholic leaders about what brought them to where they are now and how they are bringing the faith to their communities.



**Check it out at:**  
[talking.catholicstarherald.org](http://talking.catholicstarherald.org)

### Lectors

**Saturday - Dec. 9**  
4:00p J. Fahy

**Sunday - Dec. 10**  
8:30a S. Curtis  
10:30a D. Wicker  
6:00p M. Stewart

### Extraordinary Ministers

**Saturday - Dec. 9**

4:00p 1. M. McCormick 2. B. Stepniak 3. J. Pizzica  
4. F. Stepniak

**Sunday - Dec. 10**

8:30a 1. L. McGovern 2. MR. Piro 3. L. Curtis  
4. B. Schiffbauer

10:30a 1. Y. Kuemmerle 2. N. Konz 3. E. Cabbage  
4. A. Kufta

6:00p 1. F. Bianco 2. B. Cummings 3. J. McCaney  
4. N. Minchew



**SOUTH JERSEY  
CATHOLIC  
MINISTRIES  
APPEAL**

**Parish Goal:** \$129,300.00  
**Total as of Nov. 21:** \$ 95,546.00  
**% of Goal:** 74%  
**Balance Remaining:** \$33,754.00

### Weekly Contributions ~ Nov. 17 - Nov. 18, 2023

Ordinary Income	Ordinary Expenses	2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection
\$11,329.91	\$8,738.66	\$1,816.00
Campaign for Human Development		

The **PARISH GIVING** Program enables you to have your Sunday Offering automatically debited from your credit card. **Make your life easier and check it out on the parish website.**



### Prayer to St. Michael

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



## THANKS FOR BEING HERE

If you would like to become an **ACTIVE** member of Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish (either Full Time or Seasonal) we invite you to **complete the Parish Registration form below** and place the completed form in the Offertory basket or send to the Parish Office. Someone from the Parish Office will then contact you.

### ★ Our Lady Star of the Sea ★ Parish Registration Form

**Last Name** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Full Name** and relationship of all resident family members you wish to register at OLSS:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address in Cape May Area\*:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address (if different):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a:

Full-time resident

Seasonal resident

\*PLEASE *do not* use a rental property address.

**Place completed form in the Offertory Basket or send to Parish Office.**



**SOUTH JERSEY CATHOLIC CEMETERIES**  
Your Choice † Your Privilege † Your Right

**Cremation and Proper Handling of Cremated Remains**  
**Your Choices Don't Stop with Cremation**

While you may have chosen to be cremated, remember to choose your final resting place. Although the Church earnestly recommends the pious custom of burying the bodies of the dead be observed, it does not however, forbid cremation unless it has been chosen for reasons which are contrary to Christian teaching. Cremated remains are the body of the deceased in a changed form. We should honor them as we honor the body. They must be reverently buried or entombed in a place reserved for the burial of the dead.

Visit [SouthJerseyCatholicCemeteries.org](http://SouthJerseyCatholicCemeteries.org) to learn more or call us at 855-MyPrePlan (855-697-7375)..

## SCHOOL NEWS



1948 - 2023  
**WILDWOOD CATHOLIC ACADEMY**

*Nurturing Hearts and Minds by the Light of Christ*

*75th Anniversary*

### South Jersey's Only PreK-Grade 12 College Preparatory Academy

*Based on Gospel Values and the Promotion of Academic Excellence*



### REACH OUT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS!



**Become a Crusader By Enrolling Today!**

Call 609-522-7257 or inquire online  
[www.wildwoodcatholicacademy.org](http://www.wildwoodcatholicacademy.org)

1500 Central Avenue, North Wildwood, NJ



## SACRAMENTS

### BAPTISMS

...are celebrated on Sunday after the last morning mass, except during the Lenten Season. In order to schedule a date for your child's Baptism: parents should be parish members, they must attend a Baptismal Preparation Session, and all necessary documentation for godparents must be submitted. To begin the process for your child's Baptism please contact the parish office.

### CONFESSIONS

Saturday 3:00 - 3:30 PM

Tuesday and Thursday after the 11:00 AM Mass

### VISITATION OF THE SICK

Please call the Parish Office if a parishioner is seriously ill or infirm and would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick and/or Holy Eucharist.

### MARRIAGES

We welcome parishioners and the children of parishioners to be married at our Lady Star of the Sea.

Please visit the Parish website, [www.ladystarofthesea.org](http://www.ladystarofthesea.org), click on the **Marriage tab** for more information

One does not register in a parish community for the sole purpose of getting married, but to be a full, active participating member of the faith community.

## Parish Ministries

**BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY** We offer bereavement support groups twice a year in the Spring and Fall. Dates and times are announced and printed in the parish bulletin. Call Suzanne Jenkins any time if you have questions or if you would like to participate in one of the groups 609-675-8630.

**GOOD SAMARITAN** If you are interested in becoming a volunteer please contact Janet Kerney @ 267-342-2756. Parish volunteers are available to help others in a variety of ways: rides to Sunday Mass, doctor's appointments, shopping/banking, errands. Also visits: hospitals, nursing homes, your home, brief respite care. Let us know your need and we will try to provide for you. All requests must go through the Captain of the week and the request should be made to the captain at least TWO days before the appointment. Please do not call our volunteers directly To use our services you must be fully vaccinated. We are unable to transport wheelchairs. **This week's captain is Sister Judith. Her number is 609-420-4683.**



Promotes a spirit of fellowship among adults 50 years and older. During our gatherings, we enjoy lunch and varied programs. (Bring your own brown bag lunch. Desserts and beverages are provided). The group welcomes everyone age 50 and over, regardless of faith or parish affiliation. The group meets in Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish Hall on the last Wednesday of the month from 12:00 - 2:00PM from September through May. JUST FRIENDS looks forward to welcoming you at our next meeting! Join Us! No membership necessary. Please notice the time change. For more information call Carol at 609-224-9662 or Martine Simonis 609-884-5312 x 102.

The **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, St. Mary's Council #6202** meets on the second Thursday of each month in the McGivney Room of the Parish Hall. Membership is open to Roman Catholic men, 18 years of age and older, who are committed to making their community a better place, while supporting Our Lady Star of the Sea Church. For more information or to request a membership application, please contact Rick Greenfield, Outreach Coordinator, at [rickgreenfield@comcast.net](mailto:rickgreenfield@comcast.net) or 609-408-3323.

**CATHOLIC RADIO STATION WSMJ 91.9FM** has been added to the family of catholic radio stations broadcast by Domestic Church Media (DCM). For a complete schedule of programming visit [www.domesticchurchmedia.com](http://www.domesticchurchmedia.com). **WSMJ 91.9** remains a true Catholic affiliate of EWTN.



is a community of women who have experienced or are experiencing any kind of cancer. We meet on the third Thursday of every month from 4:00 - 5:30 PM in the Parish Hall, and we welcome all regardless of faith or parish affiliation. For more information or to join the group, call Dani at (609)898-4431 or email her at [flyhome@icloud.com](mailto:flyhome@icloud.com).

**THE LEGION OF MARY** meets Mondays at 9:15AM in the de Sales Room in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to join in the service of Mary. For information please call Liz McPherson, President 609-841-6629.

**Hospitality Committee** We live out our Parish mission statement to "welcome all" ..and be for those whom we meet as "the loving embrace of God." Our group offers refreshment, along with a welcoming atmosphere to all who come to our parish activities. Contact: Donna Wicker 609-408-6646.



**Do You Know Someone Who Might Be Interested in Becoming Catholic? Please encourage them to contact Sister Maria (609)884-5312 x109 as soon as possible.** We would love to have the chance to tell him/her about the wonderful process for spiritual growth called the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. In this process, adults (with other adults) learn about all the Church teaches regarding Jesus, the Bible, the Sacraments, Spirituality, and Discipleship.

**Parish Pastoral Council** The primary focus of the council is to oversee the Parish Pastoral Plan and to evaluate and recommend new goals each year. The following parishioners are members of the Parish Pastoral Council: Father John Dolan, OSFS, Joe Bogle (Chair), Donna Wicker (Vice Chair), Patrick Holden, Janet Kerney, Jeanne McFadden, Michael McGovern, Jim McHugh, Danielle Rechner, Susan Tarrant, and Richard Turco.

**Parish Finance Council:** Joe Bogle, John Tice, George Catanese, Kathy Parker, Ray Roberts, Kevin O'Neil

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES** held **Sundays 9:15AM - 11:30** which includes going to the 10:30 Mass. Contact Sister Maria at 609-884-5312 ext. 109 for more information.

**Planning your Estate ~** Have you ever considered leaving part of your estate to the Church? There are several options available that you might find attractive from an income, tax savings, retirement, or inheritance point of view. To learn more about how these programs might work for you and your family, please contact Marie Turco (609)884-5312, ext. 101 for more info.

**Pre-Planning: A Sharing of Faith ~** While we focus on living healthy, long lives, the inevitable can't be ignored. We are all destined to cross over to the eternal life that God has planned for us. By pre-planning your Catholic burial you are sharing your faith with those left behind. Many benefits come with pre-planning: your wishes are known, peace of mind, elimination of stress, & payment plans. Visit [SouthJerseyCatholicCemeteries.org](http://SouthJerseyCatholicCemeteries.org) or call 855-MyPrePlan (855-697-7375).





Men of the Parish, you are invited to join "That Man is You" (TMIY)'s weekly session on **Monday, December 4** at 7PM in the Parish Hall, Father McGivney Room.

Villa Maria by the Sea Retreat Center, Stone Harbor now welcomes lay people as well as clergy and religious to participate in our spiritual programs.



Our Catholic faith is rooted throughout our property. Mass is celebrated in Mary, Star of the Sea Chapel and has the Blessed Sacrament present for Eucharistic Adoration. There are serene indoor and outdoor porches for quiet reflection or small group sharing. The Stations of the Cross are located inside the chapel and outside where you are invited to pray this beautiful devotion. The Saint Joseph Garden is a peaceful place to enjoy God's beauty.

**Visit:** VMbytheSea.com to view our Fall 2023 offerings of spiritual workshops and weekend retreats.

**Contact:** Sr. Emily Vincent, IHM, at 609-964-7696 or ERebalsky@VMbytheSea.com with any questions.

### Christ Child Society In Numbers there is Strength

The life of a child is a promise of the future, but for many children, their future is at risk. With that in mind and if you would like to make a difference in the life of a child in need in our county, please consider becoming a member of the Christ Child Society of Cape May County. Attend a meeting with us and find out more about the Society.



#### For more information:

**Contact:** Stephanie Ware at 609-846-7006 or capemay1950@hotmail.com

*"Nothing is too much to do for a child."*

*"It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope."  
~ Pope Benedict XVI*

# Ministry of the Month

## Rejoice With the Choir

**Saint Augustine has said that, "Those that sing pray twice."** If there are any Parishioners who wish to join the Parish Choir please stop by the organ after any of the weekend Masses and give your name and phone number to Art, Jill, or Diana. Practices will begin in December on Monday afternoons at 4:00PM. The choir will sing at the 9:00PM Mass on Christmas Eve. We would love to have you become a part of our Music Ministry.

### SPEND TIME WITH SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES!



Join the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales' new reflection series!

Enjoy a short reflection on Salesian Spirituality sent to your email every day for a month!

Sign up at [oblates.org](http://oblates.org) or scan the QR code!



### The Angelus Chorus Presents: Celebrate with Songs of Joy!

- |                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>December 3 3:00 pm</b> | <b>Middle Twp PAC Center<br/>with the John Walter's Band<br/>212 Bayberry Dr.<br/>Cape May Courthouse, NJ</b> |
| <b>December 4 7:00 pm</b> | <b>Cape May Methodist Church<br/>635 Washington Ave.<br/>Cape May, NJ</b>                                     |
| <b>December 6 7:00 pm</b> | <b>Cape May Convention Hall<br/>714 Beach Ave, Cape May, NJ</b>   |



**Father of goodness and love; hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need.**

Angie Arcamone, Baby Harper, John Butler, Tony DeAngelis, Glenn Justin Delrio, Katelyn Dessner & Babies, Mary Elbertson, Kathy Higgins, Lydia Inderweis, Angelina M., Diane McCrostie, Paul Meloni, Ruby Monaghan, Marie Roberts, Jim Rochford, Mary Rothwein, Julie Band Sheehy, Mary Theresa Vey

## OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

**"Volunteers in Medicine"** provides free healthcare for our neighbors in need and relies on volunteers to man the clinic.



The Clinic is located at 423 No. Route 9 in CMCH. We need volunteers to assist with scheduling, patient registration, nursing, the Thrift Store and Community Garden. Want to know more? If you can spare a few hours a week **please contact:**

**Anne Marie at 609-778-2707 or [volunteercmc@vimsj.org](mailto:volunteercmc@vimsj.org)**

## Coming Soon...

**Our Lady Star of the Sea 50/50 Winter Raffle**



**1<sup>st</sup> Place cash prize - \$25,000  
Only 500 tickets to be sold!  
\$100 per ticket**

**Tickets are available starting in December, 2023  
By visiting the Parish Office or go to [www.ladystarofthesea.org](http://www.ladystarofthesea.org)**

**Drawing will be February 11, 2024.**

**K of C SOCIAL DINNER**  
**St. Mary's Council 6202, Our Lady Star of the Sea** ~ All councils welcome. Knights with spouse or guest & Knights' widows. Knights may invite male Catholic guests with spouse.



**When:** Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>

**Place:** Alfe's Italian Seafood Restaurant, 3401 New Jersey Avenue, Wildwood.

**Time:** 6 PM Cocktails (cash bar) followed by dinner  
**Entrees:** Veal Marsala, Shrimp Scampi, Linguine and shrimp Red, Spaghetti and Meatball

**Cost:** \$30 per person for 4 course dinner, includes gratuity ~ pay at the table, cash only.

**RESERVATIONS are REQUIRED.**

**Contact Rick Greenfield at [rickgreenfield@comcast.net](mailto:rickgreenfield@comcast.net) or 609-408-3323.**

**Notre Dame de la Mer Parish Presents**



**"A Prelude to Christmas"**

**and**

**Holy Nativity**

**Sunday, December 17, 2023**

**6PM**

**Assumption Church**

**7101 Seaview Avenue**

**Wildwood Crest, NJ 08260**

**"Free will offering"**

